

Local grand jury indicts ex-junior high coach in steroid probe



Aaron Jay Mueller. (Jail photo)

By [John Carroll](#) | Posted: Wed 9:38 AM, Nov 22, 2017 | Updated: Wed 4:41 PM, Nov 22, 2017



A former Gatesville Junior High football coach turned himself in Wednesday morning after he was named in a sealed indictment charging manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance handed up by the Coryell County Grand Jury.

Aaron Jay Mueller, 26, turned himself early Wednesday at the Coryell County Jail in Gatesville, District Attorney Dusty Boyd said.

He later posted a \$5,000 bond and was released.

"This investigation encompasses information and allegations that arose in late July regarding a Gatesville coach/teacher's aide providing performance enhancing drugs to a student," Boyd said Wednesday.

A source close to the investigation says it is believed that student was a football player, but it's not known on which team he played.

The sealed indictment the grand jury issued last Thursday alleges that Mueller "on or about July 19th of 2017...did then and there deliver, by actual transfer, a controlled substance, namely Testosterone Enanthate, an anabolic steroid, in an amount of less than 28 grams."

The offense is a state jail felony, Boyd said.

Mueller was fired this summer after information regarding the provision of performance enhancing drugs came to the attention of Gatesville school officials.

"As far as I'm concerned as superintendent, this brings closure to the situation that we've been dealing with through the summer and into this fall," Gatesville Superintendent Eric Penrod said Wednesday.

"Thousands of parents deliver their children at our door steps in the school district every day and they expect the adults in the classroom to act

appropriately and respect their children and so do we," he said.

On Oct. 27, the State Executive Committee of the University Interscholastic League reversed a decision to suspend six Gatesville high school football players accused of steroid use.

The ruling came after superintendents from school districts in UIL District 13-4A voted 3-1 earlier in the day to suspend the six Gatesville High School players from extracurricular activities for 30 days.

An attorney for the students and their parents immediately appealed the ruling to state committee, which met in emergency session to consider the appeal.

The executive committee's decision meant the six players could suit up for a game the same night, which pitted the 7-0 Hornets against the 5-2 China Spring Cougars.

Gatesville lost the game 43-16.

The Gatesville ISD launched an investigation on July 19 after an unknown caller made an accusation that a coach was providing performance enhancing drugs to his players.

"When I turned this over to the State Board of Education I was very stern and not happy with what happened we were very forthcoming about everything we learned and we knew this was coming," Penrod said.

"Aaron Mueller should never again be allowed to be in a classroom or in a program with the student," he said.

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